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EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL 872037758 US
Application No. 10/054,692

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Reissue Patent Application:

Applicants : Trung T. Doan and Gurtej S. Sandhu
Assignee: : Micron Technology, Inc.
Filed : December 19, 2001
For : POLISHING PAD REFURBISHER FOR IN SITU, REAL-TIME
CONDITIONING AND CLEANING OF A POLISHING PAD USED IN
CHEMICAL-MECHANICAL POLISHING OF MICROELECTRONIC
SUBSTRATES
Docket No. : 500300.02

Corresponding Issued U.S. Patent:

Patent No. : 6,004,196
Issued : December 21, 1999
Application No. : 09/032,230
Filing Date : February 27, 1998
Examiner : William Hong
Art Unit : 3725

BOX REISSUE
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

REISSUE DECLARATION

As below-named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses and citizenships are as stated below.

We believe that we are the original, first and sole inventors of the innovative subject matter described and claimed in the application for reissue of U.S. Patent No. 6,004,196, which is entitled "POLISHING PAD AND REFURBISHER FOR IN SITU, REAL-TIME CONDITIONING AND CLEANING OF A POLISHING PAD USED IN CHEMICAL-MECHANICAL POLISHING OF MICROELECTRONIC SUBSTRATES."

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified U.S. reissue patent application, INCLUDING BOTH THE ORIGINAL CLAIMS AND THE NEW CLAIMS PRESENTED IN THE ENCLOSED PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, § 1.56(a).

We believe the above-identified original patent 6,004,196 to be partly inoperative, by reason of the patentees claiming less than we had a right to claim. For example, claim 1 of the '196 patent is limited to the body being movably attached to the wafer carrier, and the body need not be so movably attached. Moreover, we believe there is a right to claims of varying scopes to provide a hedge against any of the issued claims being found invalid and to cover a broader range of infringing devices. This error arose without any deceptive intention on our part.

Accordingly, the enclosed Preliminary Amendment presents additional independent apparatus claims that are the error noted above. These independent claims have been newly drafted to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. The Preliminary Amendment also presents additional dependent claims and some method claims. We believe that our invention is at least as broad as these claims.

We do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention thereof.

We do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof.

We do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever patented or described in any printed publication in any country more than one year prior to the filing date of the original U.S. application.

We do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to the filing date of the original U.S. application.

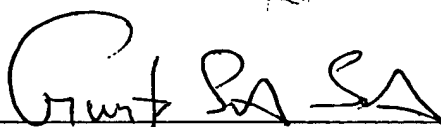
We hereby declare that all statements made of our knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and may also jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.


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1/30/02
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